

The Honorable Nancy Pelosi
Speaker, United States House of Representatives
Washington, D.C. 20515

The Honorable Kevin McCarthy
Minority Leader, United States House of Representatives
Washington, D.C. 20515

The Honorable Jerrold Nadler Chairman
Committee on the Judiciary
United States House of Representatives Washington, D.C. 20515

The Honorable Jim Jordan
Ranking Member, Committee on the Judiciary United States House of Representatives,
Washington, D.C. 20515

Nov. 11, 2020

Dear Speaker Pelosi, Leader McCarthy, Chairman Nadler, and Ranking Member
Jordan:

Cc: Majority Leader McConnell and Minority Leader Schumer

During WWII, we the undersigned were among those who experienced the injustice and inhumane treatment suffered by 120,000 Japanese Americans. We were removed from our homes and sent under armed guard to massive prisons in desolate locations far from where we lived. We suffered loss of jobs, homes, property and businesses due to racial hatred. Many of us lost family members.

It took a Herculean effort to successfully obtain reparations, signed into law by President Ronald Reagan in 1988. And this process started with a bipartisan federal commission to determine the truth: The Commission on Wartime Relocation and Internment of Civilians (1980). Those of us who survived this wartime ordeal and can speak up today about our experiences fully support HR40, the initiative to have a similar hearing for Black Americans who suffered in many ways.

Learning about this history will educate and be an important first step in understanding the case for Black reparations.

Respectfully,

Secretary Norman Y. Mineta, 89, Edgewater, MD
Incarcerated at Heart Mountain Wyoming; family removed from San Jose, CA

George Nakano, CA State Assemblymember (Ret.), 84, Torrance, CA
Incarcerated at Santa Anita Assembly Center-Arcadia, California; Jerome, Arkansas and Tule Lake, California; family removed from Los Angeles, CA

George Takei, 83, Los Angeles, CA
Incarcerated at Rohwer, Arkansas and Tule Lake California; family removed from Los Angeles

Sam Mihara, 87, Huntington Beach, CA
Incarcerated at Heart Mountain Wyoming prison; family removed from San Francisco

Nobuo J. Mihara, 89, San Francisco, CA
Incarcerated at Heart Mountain Wyoming prison; family removed from San Francisco

Dr. Amy Iwasaki Mass, 85, Albany, CA
Incarcerated at Heart Mountain, Wyoming; removed from Los Angeles

Dr. Takashi Hoshizaki, 95, Los Angeles, CA
Incarcerated at Heart Mountain, Wyoming; family removed from Los Angeles

Dr. Satsuki Ina, 77, Oakland, CA
Born at Tule Lake Concentration Camp, CA
Incarcerated Tule Lake, California, Crystal City, Texas; parents removed from San Francisco

Kiyoshi Ina, 77, Concord, CA
Born at Topaz, Utah. Incarcerated Topaz, Utah, Tule Lake, California, Crystal City, Texas; parents removed from San Francisco, CA

Akemi Ina, 77, Concord, CA
Born at Topaz, Utah, incarcerated at Topaz, Utah, Tule Lake, California; parents removed from San Francisco

Shig Yabu, 88, Camarillo, CA
Incarcerated at Pomona Assembly Center, Heart Mountain, WY; family removed from San Francisco, CA

Chizu Omori, 90, Oakland, CA
Incarcerated Poston, Arizona; family removed from Oceanside, CA

Paul Tomita, 81, Seattle, Washington
Incarcerated at Puyallup Assembly Center and Minidoka, Idaho; family removed from Seattle, WA

Stan Umeda, 85, Sacramento, CA
Incarcerated at Jerome, Arkansas and Gila River, Arizona Concentration Centers; family removed from Florin, CA

Christine Asoo Umeda, 82, Sacramento, CA
Incarcerated at Tule Lake CA and Topaz Utah Concentration Centers
Family removed from Sacramento, CA

Ruth Ichinaga, 86, Berkeley, CA
Incarcerated at Topaz, Utah; family removed from Berkeley, CA

Mary (Tanaka) Abo, 80, Bremerton, Washington
Incarcerated at Minidoka Camp, Idaho; family removed from Juneau, AK

Joe Masatsugu Abo, 80, Bremerton, Washington
Incarcerated at Tule Lake Incarceration Site, California; family removed from Shelton, WA

Nancy (Abo) Nance, 77, Tacoma, WA
Incarcerated (born) at Tule Lake Incarceration Site, California; family removed from Shelton, WA

Alice (Tanaka) Hikido, 88, San Jose, California,
Incarcerated at Minidoka Incarceration Site, Idaho; family removed from Juneau, AK

Katsumi Hikido, 98, San Jose, California
Incarcerated at Gila River Incarceration Site, Arizona; family removed from San Jose, CA

Dale S. Kunitomi, 77, Los Angeles
Born in Heart Mountain WY concentration camp
Parents removed from Los Angeles and Hollywood, CA

Jeanne Tanaka 96, Spokane, WA
Tule Lake, California; removed from Auburn WA

Nancy Kyoko Oda, 75, Los Angeles, CA
Incarcerated at Tule Lake Segregation Center; removed from Los Angeles, California

Kay Susumu Oda, 76, Los Angeles, CA
Incarcerated at Poston, Arizona; removed from Los Angeles, CA

Grace Oda Kubo, 84, Hacienda Heights, CA
Incarcerated at Poston, Arizona; removed from Los Angeles, CA

Tsuneo Oda, 75, Monterey, CA
Born and incarcerated at Crystal City, Texas; family removed from Monterey, CA

Marlene Shigekawa, 76, Pleasant Hill, CA
Born and incarcerated at Poston, AZ and Terminal Island, CA

Sarah Ishikawa, 86, Berkeley, CA
Incarcerated at Tule Lake; removed from Sacramento, CA

Thomas Nishikawa, 79, Los Osos, CA
Incarcerated at Salinas Assembly Center and Poston (camp 1), AZ
Family removed from Hollister, CA

Werner Ulrich, 79, Mount Sinai, New York
Incarcerated at Crystal City, TX
Prior to incarceration New York, NY

Flora Ninomiya, 85, Richmond, California
WWII camp: Amache, CO
Location before WWII: born and lived in Richmond, CA

Donald Teruo Hata, PhD, 81. Redondo Beach, CA.
Incarcerated Gila River, AZ. Removed from East Los Angeles, CA

Hatsuko Mary Higuchi. 81. Torrance, CA.
Incarcerated at Poston, AZ. Removed from Los Angeles, CA

Patricia (Yamakawa) Yamamoto, 83, Oakland CA
Incarcerated Pomona Assembly Center, Heart Mountain WY
Taken from San Francisco, CA

Arthur D. Jacobs, 87, Major USAF retired, Tempe AZ
Interned at: Crystal City, Texas, Ellis Island NY
CAMP 76, Hohenasperg, Germany

Thomas Keiji Morioka, 77, El Cerrito, CA
Born at Gila Concentration Camp, AZ
Parents were removed from Los Angeles, CA

Sadako Okino Delcollo, 80, El Sobrante, CA.
Incarcerated in Poston, AZ and Tule Lake, CA.
Family removed from Sacramento, CA

Nikki Nojima Louis, 82, Albuquerque, NM
Mother and I removed to Camp Harmony (Washington State Fairgrounds, Puyallup),
then to Minidoka ID (1942-1945). Father removed from Seattle, WA on Dec 7, 1941 to
Lordsburg, NM internment camp.

Tokumar R. Fujii, 76, Sunnyvale, CA
Born at Tulelake, CA, Family removed from Berkeley, CA

Gary T. Ono, 80, Los Angeles
San Francisco to Merced Assembly Center to Granada War Relocation Center. CO
(Amache)

Mary Ann Furuichi, 83, Berkeley, CA
Incarcerated at Topaz, Utah, removed from Berkeley, CA

Lorraine Makishima Seiji, 79, El Cerrito, CA.
Incarcerated at Gila River, AZ; family removed from Berkeley, CA.

Esther Kiyomi (Okano) Takeuchi, 78, Richmond, CA
Incarcerated at Camp Amache, Granada, Colorado

Mabel Tomita, 78, Seattle WA
Sent from Sacramento to Walerga/North Sacramento April 1942, then to Tule Lake CA.
Transferred to Gila River, AZ June 1943-October 1945 while father fought for America
as part of the 442nd.

Gloria Morita, 96, El Cerrito CA
Removed to Tule Lake, CA from Sacramento CA